

Amendments to the Claims

Please rewrite the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A dielectric particle aggregate made of dielectric particles containing Ti, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the particles contain one or more oxides including Ti and Zn in the surface layer thereof.
2. (Original) The dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxides including Ti and Zn are  $\text{ZnTiO}_3$  and/or  $\text{Zn}_2\text{TiO}_4$ .
3. (Original) The dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dielectric containing Ti is a  $\text{BaO-TiO}_2\text{-Nd}_2\text{O}_3$  type dielectric, a  $\text{BaTiO}_3$  type dielectric or an  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  type dielectric.
4. (Original) The dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dielectric containing Ti is a  $\text{BaO-TiO}_2\text{-Nd}_2\text{O}_3$  type dielectric that contains as principal ingredients BaO by 10 to 16 mol%,  $\text{TiO}_2$  by 67 to 72 mol% and  $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$  by 16 to 18 mol% and as auxiliary ingredients  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  by 7 to 10 parts by weight and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  by 0.3 to 1.0 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the principal ingredients.
5. (Original) The dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface layer that contains one or more oxides including Ti and Zn has a thickness not greater than 50 nm.
6. (Original) The dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dielectric particle aggregate has an average particle size of 0.4  $\mu\text{m}$  to 3.0  $\mu\text{m}$ .
7. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ comprising the steps of mixing ZnO with an aggregate of particles of a dielectric base material containing Ti and subjecting the resultant mixture to a calcinatory process.

8. (Original) The method of manufacturing dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 7, wherein 0.5 to 10 parts by weight of ZnO is mixed with 100 parts by weight of the aggregate of particles of dielectric base material.

9. (Original) The method of manufacturing dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 7, wherein the calcinatory process is conducted in an oxygen-containing atmosphere.

10. (Original) The method of manufacturing dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in claim 7, wherein the temperature of the calcinatory process is 900 to 1,200°C.

11. (Currently Amended) A low temperature sinterable dielectric ceramic composition ~~characterized by~~ containing the dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 by 100 parts by weight and a glass component by 2.5 to 20 parts by weight.

12. (Original) The low temperature sinterable dielectric ceramic composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein the glass component contains ZnO by 45 to 70 wt%, B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by 5 to 13 wt%, SiO<sub>2</sub> by 7 to 40 wt% and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by 8 to 20 wt%.

13. (Currently Amended) A low-temperature-sintered dielectric ceramic ~~characterized by~~ containing 100 parts by weight of dielectric particles constituting the dielectric particle aggregate as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 and 2.5 to 20 parts by weight of glass component.

14. (Original) The low-temperature-sintered dielectric ceramic as claimed in claim 13, wherein the glass component contains ZnO by 45 to 70 wt%, B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by 5 to 13 wt%, SiO<sub>2</sub> by 7 to 40 wt% and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by 8 to 20 wt%.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a low-temperature-sintered dielectric ceramic ~~characterized by~~ comprising the step of sintering the low temperature sinterable dielectric ceramic composition as claimed in claim 11 at 880 to 1,000°C.

16. (Original) The method of manufacturing low-temperature-sintered dielectric ceramic as claimed in claim 15, wherein the glass component contains ZnO by 45 to 70 wt%, B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by 5 to 13 wt%, SiO<sub>2</sub> by 7 to 40 wt% and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by 8 to 20 wt%.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing low-temperature-sintered dielectric ceramic as claimed in claim 15, wherein the sintering step is conducted on a laminate having a layer containing the low temperature ~~sinterable~~ sinterable dielectric ceramic composition and a layer containing metal to thereby obtain an electronic part having a laminated structure where the metal layer functions as an internal conductor.

18. (Original) The method of manufacturing low-temperature-sintered dielectric ceramic as claimed in claim 17, wherein the metal layer is made of Ag, Cu or an alloy containing at least either of them.